

## Committee Members

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Andrew Spence (Treasurer)  
David Illingworth  
David Woolveridge  
John Tasker  
David Knowles  
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Jackie Nadin  
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## NEWSLETTER - MAY 2024

WELCOME: to our June newsletter. We have a social event and inspections on the horizon so I'd like to tell you about them. Despite the cold and wet start to this season you should by now have produce growing, albeit slower than usual.

INSPECTIONS: We have two sets of inspections coming up soon.

The first are the Harrogate & District Allotment Federation's Site inspections which will take place in just over one week's time on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June**. I've attached the criteria that the judges will be looking for. I would ask you to make sure that all unwanted rubbish is removed from site. The inspectors will be visiting ALL plots on the site so make sure that yours is weed free, cultivated and tidy with no loose plastic bags etc in view.

The second inspection are the St. Andrew's Allotment Association's own inspections. These will take place on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

So, it is important that we all make our plots and our site look clean and well cultivated.

SOCIAL EVENTS: Our last social 'Picnic on the Green' which took place on 11 May was a great success and all those who attended said that they look forward to our next one.

So, this time we will be having a **BBQ. On 6<sup>th</sup> July**. Please put this into your diaries. We will supply the BBQ and shelter from the sun or the rain. We invite you to bring your own choice of meat which will be cooked for you and to your liking.

Your help with side dishes etc would be much appreciated.

June (Chair) is co-ordinating the event and our posters are already in place on our notice-boards. **June can be contacted on 07800924588**. We will be erecting gazebos for shelter and the food tables. Please contact June if you wish to help in any way.

VANDALISM: I'm pleased to say that since we've put notices around the site we have not suffered any acts of vandalism.

HDAF SHOW: The HDAF show will take place on **Sunday 18 August** at the pavilions in Valley Gardens and you are invited to compete with your own produce. The Inter-Site 2' x 2' mount theme this year is 'Over the Rainbow', ideas welcome. St. Andrew's will be looking after the cake stall, further details nearer the time.

Note: The Starbeck Show will take place **Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August**.

Remember, all profits made from both shows will be going to local charities so it's well worth taking part yourself. You never know, you may well end up with a silver cup or trophy for the mantelpiece.

ENVIRONMENT: The environment around our allotments is important to us all. Following suggestions many plot holders have put up bird or bat boxes so why not give it a go yourself.

Once again, make sure there are no hedgehogs curled up in grass prior to strimming or in the compost heap before forking it over.

Also, remember that the 'old' blue slug pellets are now banned and must not be used. Birds and hedgehogs can die if the pellets are eaten by these creatures.

WAITING LIST: Currently the list stands at 43.

This month's Tip: Our site is being plagued by squirrels and pigeons eating the young shoots of our produce and therefore we suggest using nets to cover peas and brassicas. They also like sweetcorn and courgettes surprisingly.

Weeding in dry sunny conditions can be carried out using a hoe but in wet weather it's best to remove the weed completely using a fork or trowel otherwise the weed could re-strike and begin growing again.

Once again, I hope that you found this newsletter informative and happy gardening.

Mick Nadin (Secretary)